

THE CIVIL WAR

Seward Loses in Bid for Power

By MERTON T. AKERS
UPI Correspondent

The crisis over Ft. Sumter at Charleston, S. C., was at its peak when William Henry Seward, Lincoln's new secretary of state, made his bid for power April Fool's Day 1861, but he wasn't fooling.

Seward felt he had the situation all figured out, that he knew exactly what must be done to save the Union and avert civil war. A mercurial man of considerable ability, Seward at this point regarded himself as the leader of the Republican party and the "strong man" of the administration—the "premier" he frequently was called.

As a former governor of New York, a lawyer of distinction with a world-wide acquaintance, Seward believed the young administration was floundering and that it was up to him to provide the needed leadership. At the moment he was carrying on sub rosa negotiations with a Confederate commission about the disposition of Ft. Sumter and from time to time dipping into the affairs of other departments. About this time, Maj. Robert Anderson's little federal garrison went on half-rations.

Groping for Decision

Lincoln seemed to be groping for a Sumter decision, so on April 1, apparently unconscious of the day, Seward sent to the President a document remarkable in American history. Entitled "Some Thoughts for the President's Consideration," Seward's memorandum pointed out that the administration was a month old and had no policy, foreign or domestic. That in itself was not so bad, he conceded, but to delay further "would not only bring scandal" but "danger upon the country."

"We must," he wrote, "change the question before the public from one upon slavery, or about slavery, for a question upon union or disunion . . . from a party question to one of patriotism."

The Ft. Sumter question "although not in fact a slavery or party question, is so regarded." "I would therefore terminate it by withdrawing the fed-



SEWARD WASN'T FOOLING—The crisis over Fort Sumter was at its peak when William Henry Seward, above, Lincoln's new secretary of state, made his bid for power April Fool's Day, 1861, but he wasn't fooling. Seward and the "strong man" of the administration, On April 1, he sent to Lincoln a remarkable document entitled "Some Thoughts for the President's Consideration." In the letter he said that Lincoln didn't know how to run his office and offered to take over the President's duties. Lincoln refused and answered, "I must do it."

eral garrison . . . I would simultaneously defend and reinforce all the forts in the Gulf and have the Navy recalled . . . for a blockade."

Would Declare War
On foreign questions Seward wrote, "I would demand explanations from Spain and France at once, also from Great Britain," and if satisfactory explanations are not received from Spain and France, would convene Con-

gress and declare war against them."

That added up to a fantastic scheme for fomenting a foreign war to solve domestic problems. (Spain and France were acting as if they were about to move into the Caribbean and Central America. Britain was friendly to the move but no overt acts against the Monroe Doctrine had occurred.)

Someone must administer this policy of his, Seward proposed, "either the President . . . and be all the active in it . . . or some member of the cabinet."

"It is not in my especial province. But I neither seek to evade or assume responsibility."

This was a secretary of state telling a President that the chief executive did not know how to run his office, that he would do well to let someone take over who knew how, preferably his secretary of state. Presidents have fired cabinet members out of hand for less, but that was not Lincoln's way of dealing with disident colleagues.

He answered Seward the same day.

Pointing out that his inaugural address had covered Seward's suggested domestic policy with the exception of Ft. Sumter, Lincoln replied:

"I do not perceive how the reinforcement of Ft. Sumter would be done on a slavery or party issue, while that of Ft. Pickens (at Pensacola, Fla.) would be on a national or patriotic one."

Lincoln dismissed Seward's proposal to challenge the European powers to war with a noncommittal paragraph and then drove home the clincher.

"Upon your closing proposition . . . that the President must do it himself (administer the Seward policy) or give the task to a cabinet member—I remark that if this must be done, I must do it."

He ordered two expeditions being fitted out in New York to sail on their missions. The fleet to relieve Pickens sailed April 7 and the one to relieve Sumter April 10. There was much confusion in the sailing orders and the makeup of the fleets with Seward dabbling in Navy affairs, but eventually it was straightened out.

Lincoln had another card to play and here Robert S. Chew, a State Department clerk, made a brief and dramatic entry on the stage of history and exited to be heard of no more. Chew was dispatched to Charleston with a message for Gov. Francis Pickens.

On the evening of April 8 Chew stood in Pickens' office and read this to the governor:

"I am directed by the President of the United States to notify you to expect an attempt will be made to supply Ft. Sumter with provisions only; and that, if such an attempt be not resisted, no effort to throw in men, arms or ammunition will be made without further notice, or in case of an attack upon the fort."

Chew left a copy without signature.

Advised Davis
Pickens hastily advised Jefferson Davis and his cabinet in Montgomery. Only Robert Toombs, Confederate secretary of state, opposed action.

"The firing on that fort will inaugurate a civil war greater than any the world has yet seen; and I do not feel competent to advise you."

Davis chose war. He advised Gen. Pierre Gustave Toutant Beauregard, Confederate commander at Charleston, to select his own time and method, first demanding the fort's surrender.

Lincoln's card had won the trick. The South would fire the first shot of the Civil War.

HOME RADIO
Freshwater, Isle of Wight—A radio in a store here will not be sold, the proprietor assured townspeople, until robins move out of the nest they built inside it.

Judean Documents Dated in 134 A.D.

Jerusalem, Israel — (UPI) — The first papyrus documents of those found in the Judean desert a few miles west of the Dead Sea in the past fortnight have been opened and discovered to be legal transactions from the period of the Jewish revolt against Rome.

The leaders of the Judean desert archaeological expedition told a press conference Sunday that one of the first three documents unrolled was dated the second of Kislew, the Jewish month corresponding to December, of the third year of Bar Kochbas, or 134 A.D. There are an estimated 50 other documents still to be checked, they said.

\$200,000 in Gold Stolen From Firm

Grand Rapids, Mich. — (UPI) — Police pressed a search today for daring professional "gold bugs" who braved tear gas on Easter Sunday to loot \$200,000 in gold and some diamonds from one of the nation's largest makers of school and fraternity rings.

The burglary of eight safes shut down the H. R. Thornberry Co., also a top manufacturer of jewelry emblems for fraternal and scholastic groups, pending an inventory of the exact loss.

C. R. Armstrong, co-owner of the firm, said it "may take weeks" to find out what the thieves got. An estimated 300 gold sheets were known to be missing plus an unknown number of silver sheets.

HANG ONTO THAT HAT
Albuquerque, N. M. — (UPI) — The U. S. Weather Bureau here, reporting on the weather in New Mexico Sunday night, commented:

"Afternoon breezes were brisk enough to offer slight hazard to the more crudely engineered and less securely attached Easter bonnets."

Auto Insurance Trouble?

Uninsured Accident? Violations?

Ten-Age Problems? Confidential Service

EASY LOW RATES

Also

Preferred Rates for Preferred Drivers

Atkin-McCullough Insurance, Inc.

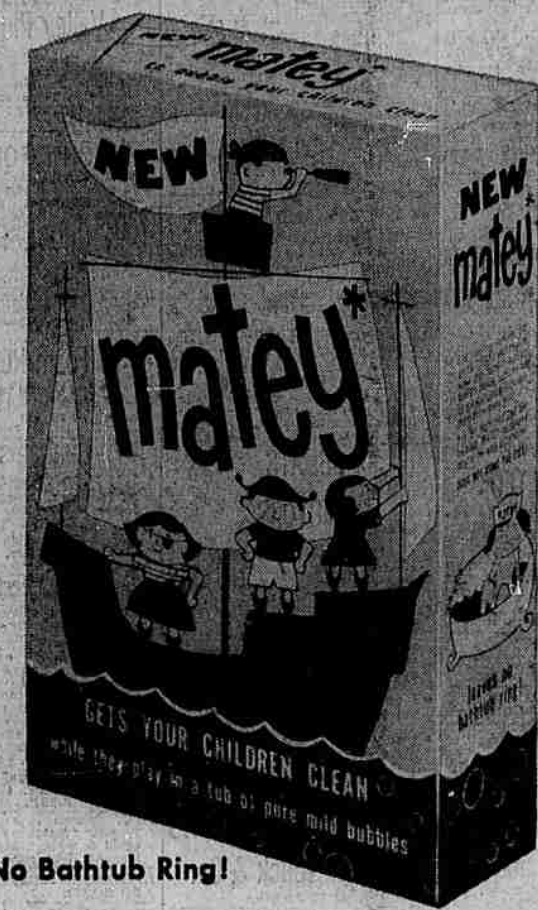
328 So. Central Phone 3P 3-7441

OIL FOR FOOD
Atlanta—About 90 per cent of the cotton seed oil used in the United States is diverted into various food products.

FARM COUNTRY
Athens—Greece has little manufacturing. Agriculture is still the important industry.

MOTHERS!

Exciting Discovery Makes Bathtime FUN



No Bathtub Ring!

The Kids Love It—Grown-ups too—You Will Find Matey

AT YOUR FAVORITE SUPER MARKET

OR FOOD STORE

No Eye Sting—No Bathtub Ring

ALL SIGNS POINT TO

BIG Y FOR SUPER SAVINGS

BIG Y For The Best Meats

BIG Y For Complete Family Shopping

BIG Y For Friendly Service Right to Your Car

TREASURE

TOMATO JUICE

46-oz. Cans

5 for 95¢

LIMIT 5 CANS

RINSO BLUE

Giant Box

49¢

LIMIT 2 PKGS.

PILLSBURY DEVILS FOOD

CAKE MIX

19¢

LIMIT 3 PKGS.

BIG Y

Mayonnaise

Quart Jar

35¢

LIMIT 2 QUARTS

SILVER DOLLAR STAMPS

Applesauce Cottage No. 303 can	6 for 95¢
Apricots Hunt's Unpeeled	5 No. 2 1/2 95¢
Pie Cherries Diamond A	4 No. 303 1.00
Cocktail Cottage No. 303 can	4 for 1.00
Mandarins Orchids 11-oz. can	5 for 1.00
Peaches Pacific Gold Elberta	5 No. 2 1/2 99¢
Peaches Market Cling	4 No. 2 1/2 1.00
Pineapple Dole Sliced	3 No. 2 1.00
Pineapple Dole Crushed	4 No. 2 1.00
Pineapple Mandalay Chunks	5 No. 1 1.00
Apple Juice Tree Top	4 24-oz. 1.00
Grape Juice Church 24-oz.	3 for 1.00
Orange Juice Cottage 46 oz. can	3 for 1.00
Margarine Kraft Deluxe	1b. 29¢
Corn Oil Staley	qt. 57¢
Catsup S&W 14-oz. bottle	5 for 1.00
Foil Alcoa 13"x25 ft.	3 rolls 89¢
Trend Liquid Detergent	22-oz. bottle 49¢
Bleach Purex Liquid	1 1/2 gal. jug 29¢

BONELESS CORNED PORK lb. 49¢

U.S.D.A. CHOICE PLATE BOILING BEEF lb. 19¢

U.S.D.A. CHOICE SHORT RIBS lbs. 39¢

U.S. NO. 1 POTATOES 10 lb. Bag 49¢

ROME BEAUTY APPLES EXTRA FANCY 10 lbs. 98¢

Solid Heads Crisp Green CABBAGE lb. 7¢

Large Bunches Snappy Clean CELERY 2 Bun. 29¢

SIMPLE SIMON ALL VARIETIES FROZEN PIES Limit 3 29¢

SILVER DOLLAR STAMPS

Asparagus Tip Top	5 No. 300 99¢
Asparagus Cottage Green	4 No. 300 1.00
Pork & Beans Van Camps	6 No. 300 89¢
Kidney Beans Market	6 No. 303 1.00
Chili Beans Riviera 24 oz. can	5 for 99¢
Green Beans Cottage Cut	6 No. 303 89¢
Lima Beans Red Dart	6 No. 303 1.00
Lima Beans Market Green	5 No. 303 1.00
Slice Beets Three Sisters	7 No. 303 1.00
Cream Style Corn Cottage No. 303 cans	6 for 1.00
Cream Style Corn Green Giant	4 No. 303 89¢
Whole Kernel Corn Diamond A	5 No. 303 95¢
Hominy Cottage Gold-White	8 No. 303 1.00
Tender Small Peas Green Giant	5 No. 303 1.00
Mixed Sizes Peas Market No. 303 can	6 for 1.00
Tomatoes Cottage No. 303 cans	6 for 1.00
Chunk Style Tuna White Star	4 No. 1 99¢
Oysters Orchid Boiled	4 8 oz. cans 99¢
Chili With Beans Big Y	4 No. 1 89¢

MARKET SHORTENING

3-lb. can

39¢

LIMIT 1 CAN

PILLSBURY FLOUR

25-lb. bag

\$1.59

LIMIT 1 SACK

STAR-LAC NON-FAT MILK

12-Qt. Pkg.

59¢

LIMIT 1 PKG.

BOYD'S COFFEE

1-lb. Can **57¢**

2-lb. Can **\$1.13**

SWIFT'S Corned Beef

12-oz. Can Reg. 59¢ Value

44¢

MRS. GRASS Soup Mix

4 FLAVORS

Buy one Package at Regular Price (29¢) Second Package **FREE**